

Inquiries

Michigan Energy Efficiency Grant Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy Programs for Local Governments

(Request for Proposal dated March 24, 2011)

- Q. Is a municipal entity considered to be an eligible (non-profit) applicant? Or do you want a 501c3 nonprofit as the applicant?**
- A. For purposes of this grant program a municipal entity is not considered an eligible applicant. The applicant must be a non-profit organization that has received a Michigan Energy Efficiency Grant in the past to develop a program substantially similar to the one identified in the Request for Proposal (RFP).
- Q. Do you have a list of the currently operating programs that must be expanded as part of this grant?**
- A. The Opinion and Order issued by the Michigan Public Service Commission on September 15, 2009 awarding Michigan Energy Efficiency Grants for similar projects to Clean Energy Coalition, Michigan Suburbs Alliance, and Northwest Michigan Council of Governments is available on the MPSC's website at www.michigan.gov/mpsc. Click on Energy Grants on the left; under the heading *orders and laws* you will find recent orders; click on *prior years orders* to view earlier orders
- Q. We have been talking to some potential partners (non-profit organizations) who have approached us about a joint program using our technology for this grant. Do you have a list of the non-profits that have received Michigan Energy Efficiency Grants in the past? Or how do I confirm if these non-profits qualify and what types of projects they have done?**
- A. The orders awarding past Michigan Energy Efficiency grants are available on the MPSC's website at www.michigan.gov/mpsc. Click on Energy Grants on the left; under the heading *orders and laws* you will find recent orders; click on *prior years orders* to view earlier orders
- Q. We are looking at how advanced energy storage could help improve the profitability and efficiency of renewable generation. We would like to propose a small renewable project tied with energy storage that will manage the intermittency of the renewable, increase their efficiency and capability and also provides other benefits such as back-up power, fast response charging station, etc (as other possible options). Is this type of project something that would fall under the interest of this program?**
- A. It is the responsibility of the applicant to determine if the proposed project meets the eligibility requirements and the scope of work set forth in the RFP.
- Q. The RFP requires that a non-profit organization responding to the RFP have been a prior recipient of a similar grant in the past. Would a non-profit organization that has not been an MPSC grant recipient, but that is in partnership with a management team for the RFP that has prior experience and success with a similar MPSC grant meet the eligibility requirement of the RFP?**

- A. Your organization is not eligible; the applicant must be a non-profit organization that has received a Michigan Energy Efficiency Grant in the past to develop a program substantially similar to the one identified in the RFP.

Q. We are a township fire department and want to install a 20 kW solar panel system on our station but we have not received a prior grant. Are we eligible to apply for this grant?

- A. Your organization is not eligible because it has not received a Michigan Energy Efficiency Grant in the past to develop a program substantially similar to the one identified in the RFP.

Q. The Statement of Purpose for the above referenced grant states that the grant is available for "eligible Michigan local government facilities. Eligible Michigan local governments include communities that than been designated as Cities of Promise . . . financially stressed communities that have been appointed an Emergency Financial Manager, and financially stressed communities that have an Emergency Financial Manager appointed during the term of the grant." Is the grant limited to those communities? May a Michigan local government department that is not a City of Promise and does/will not have an Emergency Financial Manager appointed apply for the grant?

- A. To be eligible to apply for a grant the organization must be a non-profit organization that has received a Michigan Energy Efficiency Grant in the past to develop a program substantially similar to the one identified in the RFP.

The services provided by organizations that are awarded grants will be limited to the Cities of Promise, financially stressed communities that have been appointed an Emergency Financial Manager, or financially stressed communities that have an Emergency Financial Manager appointed during the term of the grant.

Q. In order to be eligible must you be one of the following; a City of Promise, a financially stressed community that has been appointed an Emergency Financial Manager, or financially stressed community that has an Emergency Financial Manager appointed during the term of the grant?

- A. To be eligible to apply for a grant the organization must be a non-profit organization that has received a Michigan Energy Efficiency Grant in the past to develop a program substantially similar to the one identified in the RFP.

The services provided by organizations that are awarded grants will be available to the Cities of Promise, financially stressed communities that have been appointed an Emergency Financial Manager, or financially stressed communities that have an Emergency Financial Manager appointed during the term of the grant.

Q. Will you consider proposals from anyone other than a City of Promise, or a community with an Emergency Financial Manager?

- A. To be considered the organization must be a non-profit organization that has received a Michigan Energy Efficiency Grant in the past to develop a program substantially similar to the one identified in the RFP.

Q. Is there a minimum or maximum dollar value that will be considered?

A. The maximum award is \$5 million.

Q. Are all local government agencies in the State of Michigan eligible to apply or is eligibility limited to communities designated as "Cities of Promise"?

A. To be eligible to apply for a grant the applicant must be a non-profit organization that has received a Michigan Energy Efficiency Grant in the past to develop a program substantially similar to the one identified in the RFP.

The services provided by organizations that are awarded grants will be limited to the Cities of Promise, financially stressed communities that have been appointed an Emergency Financial Manager, or financially stressed communities that have an Emergency Financial Manager appointed during the term of the grant.

Q. Can a non public school partner with the local government unit where the school is located to submit a proposal?

A. To be eligible to apply for a grant the applicant must be a non-profit organization that has received a Michigan Energy Efficiency Grant in the past to develop a program substantially similar to the one identified in the RFP.

The services provided by organizations that are awarded grants will be limited to the Cities of Promise, financially stressed communities that have been appointed an Emergency Financial Manager, or financially stressed communities that have an Emergency Financial Manager appointed during the term of the grant.

Q. Do all measures or facilities installed under the solicitation have to be located on the property of the local government agency?

A. The facilities must be owned by the local government. The local government must be the entity that will realize the energy savings associated with the upgrades and installations.

Q. Can educational activities be provided to non public schools by the local government under the grant?

A. The RFP requires that the proposed project include implementation of educational and community outreach measures that inform staff, elected officials and the general public of the availability and benefits of using renewable energy systems and energy efficiency measures.

Q. Are commercial, residential, and new construction projects eligible for services under the grant program?

A. Residential and commercial sites and new construction projects are not eligible for services under this grant program. Facilities eligible for upgrades and installations must be owned by the local government. The local government must be the entity that will realize the energy savings associated with the upgrades and installations.